

## Message from the forest supervisor

Dear forest enthusiast,

Thank you for your interest in all things travel management on your national forest, the Shoshone National Forest. There was no other issue that carried more interest during our recent Forest Plan Revision process than travel management. People on all sides of the issue seem to have great passion for their interest. I have no doubt that travel management will generate a high level of interest on the Shoshone National Forest.

The Shoshone is looking at travel management now because it is clear that the motorized community feels opportunities are limited for them while the non-motorized community would like to see an improved level of compliance by ATVs in the future. Our goal is to have a system that is enforceable as well as being one that provides at least some opportunities for ATVs. In addition, we also have a need to look at opportunities for mountain bikes.

With all that being said, the Shoshone National Forest will remain a back country forest. The wild and untamed character of the Shoshone will prevail. We have the ability to provide some limited opportunities for ATV and mountain bike enthusiasts. The revised Forest Plan will guide us through this process along with other overarching documents such as the Grizzly Bear Habitat Conservation Plan.

With all of the passion surrounding travel management, it could be easy to get into a “spin cycle” and not get much accomplished. We are going to take a different approach to travel management on the Shoshone and try to avoid getting caught up in this “spin cycle.” We already know that we have limited opportunities, so we will not get ahead of ourselves. The other difference here is that we do not need to go through a big exercise to close hundreds of miles of roads like some other national forests. There may be a road here or there but that is not the main reason we are doing this.

This is the first attempt at implementing our revised Forest Plan, and I am excited to start something new. I feel that we can work together, follow the guidance of the Plan, and make this a better place for all user groups. It is important that we don't get caught up in putting the desires of one user group over another. Everyone has a right to be here and use their national forest. We simply need to find ways of accommodating these newer uses without trampling on existing uses on the Shoshone.

Sounds easy enough, right? I know this will be a challenge, but after working with all of you on Forest Plan Revision, I believe that we will find the way together. I look forward to working with all of you on our travel management plan so let's get started!

*Joe Alexander*



# the traveler

## SHOSHONE NATIONAL FOREST

Issue 1

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The official publication for the  
Shoshone National Forest's  
Travel management planning

### Upcoming Events

July 25, 2015 - Washakie Ranger District field trip to Maxon Basin  
August 1, 2015 - Wind River Ranger District field trip  
August 5, 2015 - Clarks Fork Ranger District field trip to Line Creek  
August 27, 2015 - Wapiti Ranger District field trip on Carter Mountain, coordinated by OHV group  
September 23, 2015 - Travel Management workshop in Cody  
September 24, 2015 - Travel Management workshop in Dubois  
September 25, 2015 - Travel Management workshop in Lander

### Travel Management timeline

Summer 2015 – Conduct initial public meetings  
September 2015 - Conduct public workshops; discuss opportunities & develop proposed action  
December 2015 – Conduct winter use public workshop  
Winter/Spring 2016 – Public comments accepted on proposed action  
Summer 2016 – Public meetings to develop alternatives  
Winter/Spring 2016/2017 – Release Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
Spring/Summer 2017 – Conduct public meetings upon release of Draft EIS  
Summer/Fall 2017 – Complete EIS and Draft Record of Decision (ROD )  
Winter 2017/2018 - Release EIS and Draft ROD for the Objection Period  
Spring/Summer 2018 - Respond and Resolve Objections and Sign the ROD

### Travel Management website

Our Travel Management website is up and running. Please visit the website (<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/shoshone/home/?cid=stelprd3846526>) for all up-to-date information on field trips, meetings, and a variety of other information. You can also access the website from the Shoshone National Forest homepage (<http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/shoshone/home>) under the “Quick Links” heading on the right-hand side.

### Travel Management Q & A

What is a Forest Service Road?

A road serving the National Forest System that the Forest Service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources.

Why doesn't the Motor Vehicle Use Map have more detail to make it easier to use?

The Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) is a single-purpose, inexpensive-to-produce, black-and-white paper map required by the 2005 Travel Management Rule for use on all national forests. It does not replace visitor maps, travel maps, or other maps but rather should be used alongside the forest visitor map. The MVUM displays those roads, trails, and areas designated for motor vehicle use.

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